

REMARKS / ARGUMENTS

In response to the Office action dated October 27, 2003 ("OA"), Applicant respectfully requests the Office to enter the following amendments and consider the following remarks. Claims 2-8, 10-15 and 17-24 remain pending in this application, and new claims 25-26 have been added. By this amendment, Applicant amends claims 3-6, 8, 11-12, 14, 17, 20 and 23.

In the Office action, the Examiner rejected claims 2-5, 8, 10-13, 17-22, and 24 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being allegedly anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,115,506 to Cohen et al. ("Cohen"). Claims 6-7, 11, 14-15 and 23 were indicated as being allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Claim Objections

The Examiner has objected to claims 6-7, 11, 14-15, and 23 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim. The Examiner has further indicated that claims 6-7, 11, 14-15, and 23 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and an intervening claims.

Accordingly, Applicant has amended claims 6, 11, 14, and 23 to be in independent form and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and an intervening claims. Claim 7 depends from claim 6 and is therefore allowable for at least the same reasons as is claim 6. Claim 15 depends from claim 14 and is allowable for at least the same reasons as is claim 14.

Therefore, claims 6-7, 11, 14-15, and 23 are allowable.

35 U.S.C. § 102(b) Rejections

Claims 2-5, 8, 10, 12-13¹, 17-22, and 24 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being allegedly anticipated by Cohen. *See OA, page 2 ¶ 3.*

Applicant notes that claim 2 has been rejected herein, but that the Examiner has indicated that claim 6 (which depends from claim 2) is allowable. Claim 6 has been amended to include the language of claim 2, and claim 2 has been cancelled without prejudice. Applicant notes, then, that claim 6 sets forth allowable subject matter, reciting: “wherein a portion of said set of exception registers is for servicing interrupts and another portion of said set of exception registers is for servicing operating system calls.” Applicant notes that this language is also present in allowed claim 23, and confirmed by the Examiner as not being taught by Cohen: “[t]he prior art fails to teach or suggest wherein a portion of set exception registers is for servicing interrupts and another portion is for servicing operating system calls.” *See OA, pg. 2, ¶ 1.*

Accordingly, Applicants have amended independent claims 12, 17 and 20 to include such language. Therefore, claims 12, 17 and 20 are allowable over Cohen. Claims 10, 13, 19 depend from claim 12, claim 18 depends from claim 17, and claims 21, 22 and 24 depend from claim 20, and thus all of these claims are allowable for at least the same reasons. Thus Applicant respectfully requests that the rejections to claims 10, 12-13, 17-22 and 24 be withdrawn.

Applicant has also amended claims 3-5 and 8 to depend from allowed claim 6. Thus Applicant respectfully submits that claims 3-5 and 8 are allowable for at least the reasons set

¹ Claim 11 appears to have been erroneous including in some listings of the claims rejected under 102 based on Cohen, however, claim 11 was clearly indicated to be merely “objected to,” and allowable if rewritten in independent form. *See OA, pg. 1, item 7, and pg. 2, line 1.*

forth with respect to claim 6, and accordingly, that the rejection of these claims under 35 U.S.C. § 102 be withdrawn.

New Claims

The two new claims, claims 25 and 26, depend directly from claim 12, which now includes the claim language not disclosed by Cohen and is thus allowable for the reasons stated above. Therefore, Applicant submits that new claims 25 and 26 are also allowable for at least the same reasons.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the instant application in view of this response, and the timely allowance of the pending claims. If it is believed that a telephone interview would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (650) 849-6643.

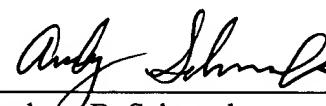
Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to deposit account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

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By:


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